Accidents of fighter aircrafts

†2758. SHRI JAI PARKASH AGGARWAL: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the fighter aircrafts of the Indian Air Force have met with accidents during the last one year;

(b) if so, the location-wise details thereof, till date; and

(c) the details of loss of life and property due to the fighter aircraft accidents?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) Yes, Sir. Seven fighter aircraft and a Kiran Trainer aircraft of the Indian Air Force have met with Cat-I accidents during the financial year 2005-2006. One fighter aircraft has met with Cat-I accident during the current financial year i.e. 2006-2007, till date.

(b) and (c) The details of accidents, location-wise and the loss of life and property suffered in each of the accident is annexed as Statement.

Statement

Location-wise details of accidents of fighter aircrafts

Sl. No.	Date/Place of Accident	Fighter/ Trainer Aircraft	Pilot/ Service Personnel Killed	Fatal (Civilian)	Loss of property (if any)
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	11.5.2005 Gorakhpur, UP	Jaguar	1	Nil	Nil
2.	7.10.2005 Gwalior, MP	Jaguar	Nil	Nil	Nil
3.	26.10.2005 Bangalore, Karnataka	MiG-21	1	Nil	Nil
4.	13.12.2005 Tezpur, Assam	MiG-21	Nil	Nil	Rs.19,853/- (crop damage)

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

1	2	3	4	5	6
5.	19.12.2005 Agra, UP	Canberra	2	Nil	Nil
6.	17.1.2006 Jamnagar, Gujarat	MiG-21	Nil	Nil	Nil
7.	18.3.2006 Bidar, Karnataka	Kiran (Trainer)	2	Nil	Nil
8.	21.3.2006 Uttarlai, Rajasthan	MiG-21	2	Nil	Nil
9.	8.6.2006 Jamnagar, Gujarat	MiG-29	Nil	Nil	Nil
	TOTAL :		8	Nil	Rs.19,853/- (crop damage)

Modernisation of Army

2759. SHRI MOTIUR RAHMAN: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the number and type of weapons available with the Army are much less, in comparison to their requirement;

(b) if so, the measures taken to modernize the Army and to upgrade their weapon systems and to provide required number of weapons to them; and

(c) the steps taken to equip the infantry men with superior light weight weapons, equipments and clothing?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) to (c) Modernisation of the Army is an on-going process based on imperatives of national security, analysis of threat perception and response thereto. A holistic study for the modernization of the Army has been carried out based on prevailing and anticipated threats to the national security and has been projected in the form of Army's Long Term Perspective Plan covering a period upto 31.3.2017.